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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OGEN, AS, NZ, PP, FJ

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT- AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, PACIFIC
ISLANDS

1. AMBASSADOR WHITE SAYS FAREWELL TO DEPUTY SECRETARY:
NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR LLOYD WHITE CALLED ON THE DEPUTY
SECRETARY ON MARCH 7 TO SAY FAREWELL. AMB WHITE LEAVES
WASHINGTON FOR NEW ZEALAND AND RETIREMENT ON MARCH 11. HIS
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SUCCESSOR, MERWYN NORRISH, NOW DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, ARRIVES ON MARCH 22. DURING THE CALL ON
MR. CHRISTOPHER, THE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE POINT RAISED WAS
AMBASSADOR WHITE'S REQUEST THAT THE EMBASSY BE KEPT FULLY
INFORMED OF THE FUKUDA VISIT TO WASHINGTON (LIMITED OFFICIAL
USE)

2. NZ DCM NAMED AMBASSADOR TO MANILA: BARBARA ANGUS, THE NEW ZEALAND DCM IN WASHINGTON, HAS INFORMED US THAT SHE HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS AMBASSADOR TO MANILA. HER TRANSFER WILL TAKE PLACE IN JULY.(UNCLASSIFIED)

3. NEW ZEALAND VISITOR: ED HURWITZ AND BILL GALLAGHER MET WITH JOHN F. LUXTON, NATIONAL MP FOR PIAKO, ON MARCH 7. THE HOUR'S DISCUSSION CENTERED ON DAIRY AND MEAT EXPORTS, THE EEC AND JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND THE PROBLEMS OF POLYNESIAN OVERSTAYERS IN NEW ZEALAND.

4. AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN WEEK: TOM WAJDA MET WITH AMB. DOBELLE MARCH 7 TO DISCUSS CHIP AND CARON CARTER'S PARTICIPATION IN AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN WEEK. THE CARTER'S ARE PREPARED TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE AND WE ARE NOW ASKING CANBERRA TO PROVIDE A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE. KIT DOBELLE WILL ACCOMPANY THEM (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

5. MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS: BILL BODDE CAME BACK LAST WEEK FROM A TEN DAY VISIT TO MICRONESIA. THE FIRST WEEK OF THE TRIP WAS SPENT IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS WITH THE KWAJALEIN LAND-USE TASK FORCE. IT PROVED VERY USEFUL TO EXPOSE THE PENTAGON LAND EXPERTS TO THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE MI AND TO MAKE THEM AWARE OF THE DIFFERENT PRECEPTION OF LAND VALUES HELD BY THE ISLANDERS COMPARED TO AMERICANS.

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6. FOLLOWING THE MARSHALLS VISIT, HE ATTENDED THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA (COM) SESSION IN PONAPE. IN CONTRAST TO THE NEGATIVE PUBLIC STATEMENTS, MADE IN THE CONGRESS AGAINST THE USG NEGOTIATING POSITION, IN PRIVATE THE LEADERSHIP WAS WILLING TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES AND PROMISED TO PROVIDE THE USG WITH THE COM DRAFT COMPACT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

7. IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE COM LEADERSHIP LOOKS TO THE JULY 12 CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM AS THE LAST CHANCE TO IMPOSE UNITY ON MICRONESIA. THEY PLAN TO CAMPAIGN HEAVILY IN THE MARSHALLS AS WELL AS THE FOUR CENTRAL DISTRICTS BUT SEEM TO HAVE WRITTEN OFF PALAU. AT THIS TIME IT LOOKS AS IF IT WILL PASS IN THE FOUR CENTRAL DISTRICTS AND MIGHT POSSIBLY PASS IN THE MARSHALLS. VANCE

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED PERTH, BRISBANE, AUCKLAND AND CINCPAC.

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